
EFFECTIVE

January 1, 2013.

Subject(s)

1. Jobs, Education and Training (JET).
2. New Standard of Promptness.
3. FIP/FAP waiver for Employment & Training Activities
4. 21 day Application Eligibility Period (AEP).
5. Good cause reasons for cases active FIP and FAP.
6. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment rate increase.
7. Medicaid (MA) updates.
8. Miscellaneous.

1) Jobs, Education and Training (JET)**FIP, FAP**

BAM 110, 300 and 600; BEM 100, 201, 218, 228, 229, 230A, 230B, 232, 233A, 233B, 234, 245, 519, and 800

The work participation program name has been changed from Jobs, Education and Training (JET) to Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH).

All references to JET should be considered as PATH as the successor program, as allowed per the Social Welfare Act.

Reason: Program name change.

2) New Standard of Promptness**FIP****BAM 115**

Upon receipt of the FIP application, the specialist must run the FIP Eligibility Determination Group (EDG) in Bridges to timely generate an automated DHS- 4785, PATH Appointment Notice, to the client as well as interfacing a referral to OSMIS. While the specialist should run the FIP EDG immediately, this must be completed within five days of the application date. Certify FIP program approval or denial within 45 days.

Reason: Programming change.

3) FIP/FAP Waiver for Employment & Training Activities

FIP

BEM 228

In order to meet federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requirements, a participant must engage in other core activities if the maximum unpaid work hours are not enough to meet the minimum federal participation requirements. With the combined FIP/FAP waiver for federally funded FIP cases, the FIP and FAP benefit amounts are combined and divided by the state minimum wage, in most cases allowing the participant increased hours in which they can participate in community services and/or unpaid work experience to meet the federal work participation requirements. Furthermore, if a participant is assigned the maximum hours allowed by the FLSA calculation, but this maximum is not enough to meet the core hour requirement, the remaining core hours may be deemed. Deeming is the act of giving the participant credit for the completing **core** (for community service or unpaid work experience **only**) hours when they have not actually met their required hours, due to the FLSA restriction. By deeming, the participant meets their required hours for the month.

Bridges interfaces to OSMIS the combined FIP/FAP grant amount on a monthly basis.

A participant with a 30 hour requirement must complete 20 of their required hours in core activities and may complete the additional 10 required hours in non-core activities. If the participant is able to be deem their 20 hour requirement based on the combined FIP/FAP waiver. but does not meet their additional 10 hour non-core requirement, that participant will not meet their required hours for the month.

Reason: Programming change.

4) 21 Day Application Eligibility Period (AEP)

FIP

BEM 229

Completion of the 21 day Application Eligibility Period (AEP) orientation is an eligibility requirement for approval of the FIP application. PATH participants must complete all of the following in order for their FIP application to be approved:

- Begin the AEP by the last date to attend as indicated on the DHS-4785, PATH Appointment Notice.
- Complete PATH AEP requirements.
- Continue to participate in PATH after the completion of the AEP.

Deny the FIP application if an applicant does not complete all of the above components of AEP.

BEM 230A

The last date to attend the AEP is changed from 20 to 15 days, the mailing time frame is changed from 10 to 6 days.

5) Good cause reasons for cases active FIP and FAP

If a participant is active FIP and FAP at the time of FIP noncompliance, determination of good cause is based on the FIP good cause reasons. For the FAP determination, if the participant does not meet one of the FIP good cause reasons, determine the FAP disqualification based on FIP deferral criteria, unless the participant meets the FAP deferral reason of Care of a Child under age 6 or Education. No other deferral reasons apply for participants active FIP and FAP.

Reason: Programming change.

Communication: What's New, OWTD training materials.

6) SSI Payment Rate Increase

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment rates for independent living, household of another, eligible child, domiciliary care, personal care and home for the aged will be increased from the 2012 amounts. Rates in effect January 1, 2013 are given in part C - Payments of the Social Security Manual. Treatment of this income is described in the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM).

**7)MA Mass
Updates****MA****BEM 400, 402, 405, 546, Reference Table 248**

There is an increase in federal benefits paid to recipients of SSI and RSDI as of January 1, 2013 causing an increase in the equity limit for a homestead, as well as increases to the protected spousal amounts for a community spouse. There are also increases in the private pay rate for nursing homes.

8) Miscellaneous**FAP****BAM 116**

The legal citation is updated to align with the federal regulations.

All Programs**BAM 600**

The DHS-3050, Hearing Summary, is required for all hearings.

Reason: Policy clarification.

**MANUAL
MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS****Changed Items (content changes) ...**

**BAM 110
BAM 115
BAM 116
BAM 600
BEM 100
BEM 201
BEM 210
BEM 218
BEM 228
BEM 229
BEM 230A
BEM 230B
BEM 232
BEM 233A
BEM 233B
BEM 234
BEM 245
BEM 400
BEM 402
BEM 405
BEM 500
BEM 519
BEM 546
BEM 800**